

back home. It also places tremendous stress on our ships and aircraft. While deployed battlegroups have maintained their readiness, they often do so at the expense of non-deployed units. In my view, we must maintain our commitment to support the fleet and ensure they continue to be the best equipped in the world. We have a distinct responsibility to our Navy, not to blindly increase ship production in response to rampant deployment rates, but to ensure we are ready to face clearly defined missions and threats.

Today, as in the future, America relies on its Navy. For 225 years, the Navy has responded to each new demand and comes through in the clutch. Ever-present, around the globe, minutes away from crises as they occur, today's Navy is deterring would-be aggressors; and providing fledgling democracies with visible reassurance of U.S. support. Daily, Navy men and women are our ambassadors in ports of call and as participants in multinational operations and exercises. As one of the eleven members of this Senate to have worn the Navy uniform, I am pleased to share my pride in our sea service with all who have worn Navy blue down through the years. I also send greetings to the 373,910 men and women on active duty today, the 182,970 ready reservists, and the extended Navy family of civilian personnel, families and loved ones.

As we celebrate this 225th birthday, I close solemnly, and offer the first verse of the Navy Hymn in memory of those who have most recently perished in service to their Navy and their country:

Eternal Father, Strong to save,  
Whose arm hath bound the restless wave,  
Who bid'st the mighty Ocean deep  
Its own appointed limits keep;  
O hear us when we cry to thee,  
for those in peril on the sea.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### TRIBUTE TO MONSIGNOR BOLDUC

• Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to Reverend Monsignor Norman P. Bolduc, 48, Chancellor of the Diocese of Manchester, as New Hampshire mourns his tragic loss.

Monsignor Bolduc was ordained a priest in April 1979 after entering his religious training at Saint Thomas Seminary in Connecticut at the tender age of 13. As a Lieutenant Colonel, Monsignor Bolduc served as a Chaplain of the United States Air Force Reserves. He earned a master's in philosophy at the Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C., where he also earned his licentiate in Canon law.

Upon the recommendation of Bishop Odore Gendron, the seventh Bishop of Manchester, Pope John Paul II ap-

pointed Reverend Norman Bolduc as a Chaplain to His Holiness with the title of Monsignor in 1991. As Chancellor, Monsignor Bolduc was the third-ranking official in the diocese. He served as the bishop's Secretary for Pastoral Services and represented the bishop in Concord, New Hampshire, speaking on legislative matters. Reverend Edward Arsenault, Secretary for Administration of the diocese, noted Monsignor Bolduc's keen intellect and his "great ability to explain and teach the church's teaching. He was a noted and gifted homilist."

Monsignor Bolduc was a talented baseball player, an avid golfer and had a passion for travel, often traveling to foreign lands. Many New Hampshire residents were fortunate to share his love of travel and accompanied him on pilgrimages to the Holy Land. Monsignor Bolduc was the eldest of seven children. He was the loving son of Norman Sr. and Cecile Bolduc of Laconia, New Hampshire. Monsignor Bolduc was a caring brother and devoted uncle to his eleven nieces and nephews. He enjoyed his family life and cherished the time he spent with all of them.

As Bishop John B. McCormack remembered his faithful and devoted colleague during the Funeral Mass celebrated at Saint Joseph's Cathedral he reminded us all that, "It is clear that God does give, but God also takes away. It is clear whether we live or die, we are all the Lord's." Monsignor Bolduc honorably served our nation and the Roman Catholic Church and will be greatly missed by all those who were blessed by his presence and ministry. As Holy Scripture says in Psalm 116, "Precious in the eyes of the Lord is the death of the faithful ones." May God bless Norman Sr., Cecile and Monsignor Bolduc's siblings, nieces and nephews as they mourn the loss of their loved one.

I am honored to have served the Reverend Monsignor Norman Bolduc in the United States Senate. May God bless him and grant him eternal peace.●

##### DONALD L. BEMIS JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL NAMED BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL FOR 1999-2000

• Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, in 1982, the United States Department of Education initiated its Blue Ribbon Schools Program. In each year since, the Department has recognized schools throughout the country which excel in all areas of academic leadership, teaching and teacher development, and school curriculum. In other words, Blue Ribbon Schools are the finest public and private secondary schools our Nation has to offer. They are the schools that set the standard for which others strive. I am very proud to report that nine of the 198 Blue Ribbon Schools named by Secretary Richard W. Riley for 1999-2000 are located in the

State of Michigan, and I rise today to recognize Donald L. Bemis Junior High School in Sterling Heights, Michigan, one of these nine schools.

The mission of Donald L. Bemis Junior High is to educate its students in the development of knowledge, problem solving, and acceptance of others. Curriculum places primary emphasis on basic skills to promote essential knowledge and challenge students to achieve at the highest levels they are capable of attaining. Students are taught tolerance as conflict resolution strategies have been integrated into this curriculum. In addition, character building is taught and modeled within the school climate. The whole of this curriculum is designed to provide students with the building blocks they need to construct positive ideals which they can carry with them for the rest of their lives.

Technology has recently begun to play a large role in the program as well. Each classroom at Bemis is equipped with a television and VCR, allowing students to be a part of a worldwide telecommunications system and providing teachers with audio-visual communication throughout the entire school. There are at least two computers in each classroom, which are hooked up to two building servers as well as the Internet. Bemis also has three computer laboratories, from which teachers and students can easily access personal files which have been set up for them. There is no doubt that technology is revolutionizing the way that students are taught throughout our Nation. There is also no doubt that Bemis Junior High has been on the forefront of employing it for positive purposes.

Perhaps the greatest key to the success of Bemis Junior High though has been the collaborative decision making process which has been developed by parents, teachers and students. This process involved an overall dedication to the Bemis Junior High community, and relies upon keeping lines of communication open through parental contacts, open houses, parent-teacher conferences, the Parent Sounding Board, and the Student Council. Also present and a part of this process is the School Improvement Team, made up of staff and students focusing upon issues to enhance student achievement. All of these efforts lead to a well informed school community, which has been the most important aspect in the development of Bemis Junior High.

Mr. President, I applaud the students, parents, faculty and administration of Bemis Junior High, for I believe this is an award which speaks more to the effort of a united community than it does to the work of a few individuals. With that having been said, I would like to recognize Mrs. Joyce A. Spade, Principal of Bemis Junior High, whose dedication to making her school one of